# Public Forum For the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual CMRS Competition Report

Federal Communications Commission

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Charles R. Mahla, Ph.D. Econ One Research, Inc. Sacramento, California 916 449 2860

www.econone.com www.wirelesssurvey.com



#### Econ One's Wireless Survey

- Top 25 Markets Since September 1999.
- Not a consumer questionnaire
  - It is a "Survey" of Wireless Plans
  - Data from Carriers' Web sites
- Survey Entails collection/analysis of over 2,500 pricing plans each month.
- Four usage levels analyzed: 30, 150, 300, and 600 minutes per month.
- Three different Peak/off-peak assumptions.



#### Econ One's Wireless Survey...

• Does not estimate "average cost of service."

- <u>not</u> attempt to value roaming or long distance.
- Does provide insight into service cost trends.
  - Allows for inter-city trend and intra-carrier cost

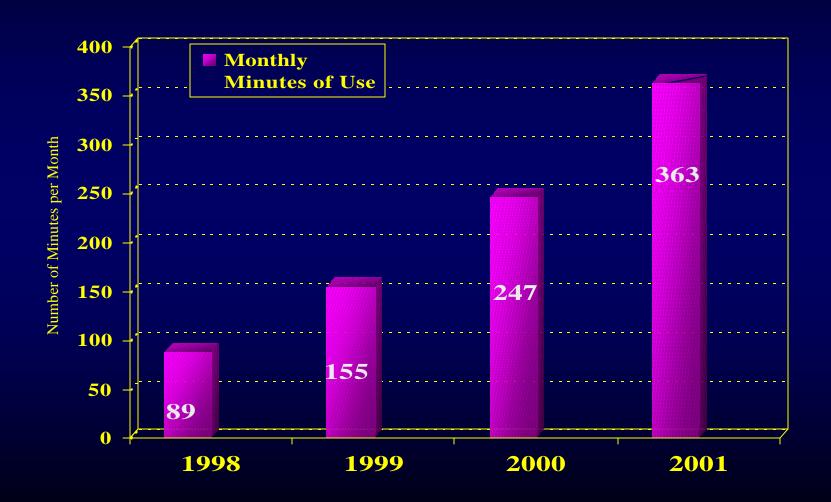


#### Wireless Performance/Cost of Service Trends

- Demand for Wireless Service Continues to Grow
  - Penetration and usage (MOU) continue to rise
- Cost of Service Continues to Fall
- Footprints are Getting Larger
- Localized Pricing is being Replaced by Regional/National Plans



#### Wireless Monthly Minutes of Use (MOU)





#### Wireless Pricing Continues Downward Trend

From December 2000 to December 2001 average service rates based on the four usage buckets included in our survey fell by 7.3%.

This decline followed a nearly 7% decline in



#### Wireless Pricing Continues Downward Trend





Source: Econ One Research, Inc. Monthly Wireless Survey.

## Wireless Performance/Cost of Service Trends

• The most expensive city was almost 34% more expensive than the least expensive city in

• The gap fell to 8% by December 2001.



### Difficulties in Calculating an Index of Cost of Service

- MOU data are hard to come by.
  - City-specific MOU are even more difficult to find.
- Time-of-day usage statistics are not publicly

- Distribution of users by plan type unknown.
- Consumer surveys help—how accurate are they?



#### Econ One's Findings on "Rural" Market Service Costs

- Conducted 25-market review in October 2001.
  - Market selection not "scientific."
- Average population: 95,611.
  - Versus 4.4 million average population in Top 25 markets.
- Average number of carriers per market: 3.3.
  - Versus 4.9 per market in Top 25 markets.



#### 25 Markets Used in "Rural" Analysis



# Econ One's Findings on "Rural" Market Service Costs

Ave	rago Month	ly Chargo fe	or Wireless S	Corvico	
Cor	nparison Ad	cross Marke	t Groups Su	rveyed	
		October 20	01		
	October 2001 70 % Peak				
	Minutes of Usage Per Month				
City	30	150	300	600	Average
	(Dollars Per Month)				
Top 25 Markets	\$23.46	\$34.69	\$39.79	\$51.61	\$37.39
"Rural" Markets	\$23.52	\$31.09	\$36.34	\$54.39	\$36.34
Large-Market Premium	-\$0.07	\$3.60	\$3.45	-\$2.78	\$1.05
% Difference	-0.3%	11.6%	9.5%	-5.1%	2.9%

# Econ One's Findings on "Rural" Market Service Costs



#### **Questions and Comments**

Presentation Available for Download at:

